

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/052,937

Examiner

Daniel C. Crane

Applicant(s)

WILHELM ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed February 23, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 28-63.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/647,770.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date Hereto.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment to claim 40 was given in a telephone interview with Mr. I. Zborovsky on March 1, 2006.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

In the first line of the specification (under the heading of CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION), --, now abandoned-- has been inserted after "09/647,770".

IN THE CLAIMS

40. (Currently Amended) A device for producing curved lengths of spring band steel (11), comprising a bending unit (20) including three support points (23-25) spaced apart from one another [through which a]; means for conveying there through spring band steel (10) which is made of [the] lengths of spring band steel (11) that are disposed after one another and are of one piece with one another[, is conveyable] so that the support points (23-25) rest against alternating band sides of the spring band steel, wherein the center support point (24) of the three support points (23-25) is embodied so that it is movable lateral to the spring band steel in order to adjust the banding radius; a reverse bending unit (22) that engages the same band side of the spring band steel (10) as the center support point (24) of the three support points (23-25) of the

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bending unit (20) and having a support point (32), the reverse bending unit is movable lateral to the spring band steel in order to adjust a reverse banding radius by means of numerical control unit (29); and a cutting unit (21) for cutting the length of the spring band steel (11) which passes through the bending unit (20) and the reverse bending unit (22).

EXTENSION OF TIME FEE

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is required in order to make an examiner's amendment which places this application in condition for allowance. During a telephone conversation conducted on March 1, 2006, Mr. Zborovshy requested an extension of time for 1 MONTH(S) and authorized the Director to charge Deposit Account No. 19-4675 the required fee of \$120 for this extension and authorized the following examiner's amendment. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

INQUIRIES

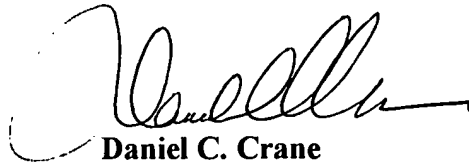
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner D. Crane whose telephone number is (571) 272-4516. The examiner's office hours are 6:30 AM – 5:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Mr. Derris Banks, can be reached at (571) 272-4419.

Documents related to the instant application may be submitted directly by facsimile transmission at all times. The Examiner's Fax number is (571) 273-4516. Applicant(s) is(are)

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reminded to clearly mark any transmission as "DRAFT" if it is **not** to be considered as an official response. The Office Facsimile Center number is (571) 273-8300.

DCCrane
March 1, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Crane', with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

Daniel C. Crane
Primary Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 3725